

Ficus Lyrata

Fiddle Leaf Fig

A less commonly seen member of the ficus family. Like all ficus, they enjoy strong light and detest sudden changes in their environment. Slower growing than ficus benjamina, these plants will shed their lower leaves if allowed to dry out too often, or kept in too low a light condition. Aerial roots are common and can be removed if desired. Don't be afraid to prune and repot regularly in the spring. Plants love to summer outside if you can transition them slowly back indoors. Prune roots if you don't want to increase pot size. Consider a systemic insecticide to combat scale insects and spider mites.



Light:

Prefers bright light. Several hours of sun are beneficial, especially in winter. Too little light will cause the plant to lose leaves and thin out. Rotate the plant to ensure even growth and prune to encourage bushiness.



Low- well away from a bright window, or close to an obstructed window. Indirect light, north facing windows.

Medium- bright but sunless, some distance from a sunny window or close to a bright sunless window.

Partial Sun- east or west facing windows, at least four hours of direct sunlight per day.

Full Sun- south facing window. Full exposure, continuous sun, may be hot in summer.



Water:

Ficus trees will drink heartily if grown in good light. They should be allowed to dry slightly and then given a thorough soaking. Be careful not to over-water a tree that has lost a lot of its leaves. Brown tips indicate



Allow soil to dry thoroughly between waterings.

Water when soil has dried one to two inches below the surface.

Water when soil has just dried on the surface.

Water frequently, never allowing soil to dry.



Humidity

Benefits from frequent misting.



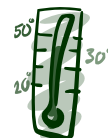
Fertilizer

Fertilize regularly from February through October. Standard Formula.



Soil

Standard good quality potting soil.



Temperature

Average home temps.

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